

5. (cancelled) The composition of Claim 4, adapted for use on animal husbandry surfaces, with hard water up to about 1,000 ppm. or by hydriodic acid, and the surfactant;

6. (once amended) The composition of claim 4, [including] wherein propylene glycol [and the like] is present for inhibiting dust formation.

7. (twice amended) A biocide concentrate composition, consisting of:
a.) a surfactant [agent], for complexing or stabilizing iodine and hydriodic acid;

b.) at least about 0.1% of a biocidal amount of iodine complexed by the surfactant [: at least about 0.1%]; and, at least about 0.01% of hydriodic acid [: at least about 0.01%] for reducing surface tension;

c.) at least about 10% of propionic acid, [and equivalents] propionates, their salts and esters [for combining] with ambient ammonia or ammonia containing compounds arising from fermenting litter and manure to form ammonium propionate [: at least about 10%]; [and,]
d.) an acidifier[s] to adjust the composition pH to within the acid range;

and, optionally propylene glycol, a buffer and water.

8. (once amended) The composition of Claim 7, [including] wherein propylene glycol [and the like] is present for solubilizing components of the composition to inhibit dust formation and, providing product stability and increasing penetrability into microorganisms and surfaces.

9. (once amended) The composition of claim 4, in which the surfactant [comprises] is a polyoxyethylene polyoxypropylene block copolymer.

10. (once amended) The composition of claim 4, in which the surfactant is selected from the [class] group consisting of non-ionic, laureth (11 - 16) carboxylic acid; PVP; nonyl phenoxypolyethoxy ethanol; polyethenoxy; and, polyethoxylated polyoxypropylene block copolymer.

11. (once amended) The composition of claim 4, which consists of: at least about 0.1% iodine [: at least about 0.1%]; at least about 0.01% hydriodic acid [: at least about 0.01%]; at least 10% propionic acid, [and the like] propionates, their salts and esters; an acid to obtain a pH of about -2 to 3; at least about 1% of a buffer [; at least about 1%] and at least about 5% of propylene glycol, [: at least about 5%] all parts by weight.

12. (once amended) The composition of Claim 10, which comprises: about 0.1% - 5% iodine [: about 0.1% - 5%]; about 0.01% - 2% hydriodic acid [: about 0.1% - 5%]; about 10% - 75% propionic acid, [and the like: about 10% - 75%], propionates, their salts and esters; an acid sufficient to obtain a pH of about - 2 to 3; at least 1% of a buffer, and, about 5% - 30% of propylene glycol, [and the like,] all parts by weight.

13. (once amended) The composition of claim 11, in which the [acidifying agent] acidifier and buffer is an acid selected from the [class] group consisting of citric acid, lactic acid, sorbic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid [and the like] and their salts and esters, and mixtures thereof.

14. (once amended) The composition of claim 13, [comprising a water diluent] wherein water is present as a diluent.

15. (once amended) The composition of claim 13, [comprising a water diluent of about 20% - 40% by weight of the composition] wherein about 20% - 40% of water is present as a diluent in the composition.

16. (cancelled) The composition of Claim 4, which commences biocidal activity within about ten minutes, provides biocidal activity for about ten minutes to about five hours, and maintains activity in the presence of organic matter.

17. (cancelled) The composition of Claim 4, in which activity of the composition is maintained in the presence of up to about 50% of organic matter, and 1,000 ppm. of hard water.

18. (once amended) The composition of Claim [16] 4, in which the composition has a shelf life of up to about one year to eighteen months, at ambient temperatures.

19. (cancelled) A method for inhibiting or preventing biocidal activity by applying a composition comprising I⁻ and propionic acid.

20. (cancelled) A method for inhibiting or preventing biocidal activity in the presence of organic material, which comprises applying HI or I and propionic acid for pH control, and for combining with ambient NH₃ to form ammonium propionate, thereby producing residual biocidal activity and inhibiting or preventing microorganism formation, including mold formation.

21. **(twice amended)** A method for reducing or eliminating biocides from surfaces of animal husbandry, animal feed and food processing operation in the presence of hard water, consisting of: applying to the surface a solution containing a surfactant [agent, and the like]; a biocidal amount of hydriodic acid and complexed or stabilized iodine, propionic acid [and the like] propionates, their salts and esters for pH control, and [for combining] ambient NH_3 or ammonia containing compounds arising from fermenting litter and manure to form ammonium propionate, thereby producing residual biocidal activity, and inhibiting [or preventing] microorganism [including mold formation] infestations; and, acidifiers to adjust the composition pH to within the acid range.

22. **(not amended)** The method of Claim 21, in which biocidal activity is commenced within about ten minutes, remains active for about ten minutes to about five hours, and biocidal activity is maintained in the presence of organic matter.

23. **(once amended)** The method of claim 21, including propylene glycol [and the like] for inhibiting dust formation.

24. **(once amended)** The method of claim 21, [including] wherein the solution further comprises propylene glycol [and the like] and equivalent glycols for dissolving components of the composition, and for inhibiting dust formation.

25. **(not amended)** The method of Claim 21, in which the surfactant comprises a polyoxyethylene polyoxypropylene block copolymer with an HLB of about 1.0 - 7.0.

26. **(once amended)** The method of claim 21, in which the surfactant is selected from the [class] group consisting of polyethenoxy; non-ionic, laureth (11 - 16) carboxylic acid; PVP; nonyl phenoxypolyethoxy ethanol; and, polyethoxylated polyoxypropylene block copolymer.

27. (cancelled) The method of Claim 21, which comprises applying the solution to the animal husbandry surface in the presence of hard water up to about 1,000 ppm.

28. (once amended) The method of claim 21, in which the solution [comprises] consists of: at least about 0.1% iodine [: about at least 0.1%]; at least about 0.01% hydriodic acid [: at least about 0.01%]; at least about 10% propionic acid, [and the like: at least about 10% propionates, their salts and esters; [phosphoric acid and/or sulfuric acid, and the like] an acidifier sufficient to obtain a pH of about -2 to 3; [an acidifying agent and] about 0% - 10% buffer [: about 0% - 10%]; and, about 0% - 10% propylene glycol [about 0% - 10%, and equivalents thereof], all parts by weight, for combining with ambient NH₃ to form ammonium propionate.

29. (once amended) The method of claim 28, in which the solution [comprises] consists of: up to about 5% iodine [: up to about 5%]; up to about 0.01% - 2% hydriodic acid; [: up to about 0.01% - 2%] about 10% - 75% propionic acid, [and the like: about 10% - 75% propionates, their salts and esters, [phosphoric acid and/or sulfuric acid, and the like] an acidifier sufficient to obtain a pH of about -2 to 3; about 0% - 10% buffer [about 0% - 10%]; and, about 5% - 30% propylene glycol, [and the like: about 5% - 30%], all parts by weight, for combining with ambient NH₃ to form ammonium propionate.

30. (once amended) The method of claim 28, in which the [acidifying agent] acidifier and buffer is an acid selected from the [class] group consisting of citric acid, lactic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, sorbic acid [and the like], their salts and mixtures thereof.

31. (once amended) The method of claim [29] 21, in which the [composition includes] solution further comprises water as a diluent.

32. (not amended) The method of Claim 31, in which the water diluent comprises about 20% - 40% by weight of the composition.

33. (cancelled) The method of Claim 22, in which biocidal activity commences within about ten minutes, provides biocidal activity for about ten minutes to about five hours, and maintains activity in the presence of organic matter.

34. (once amended) The method of claim [20] 21 in which the [composition] solution has a shelf life of at least one year at ambient temperatures.

35. (once amended) The method of claim 21, in which activity of the [composition] solution is maintained in the presence of up to about 50% of organic matter.

36. (cancelled) A method for reducing or removing microorganisms from surfaces, comprising applying to the surface a solution containing a surface agent for complexing iodine and hydriodic acid and for reducing surface tension; a biocidal amount of complexed iodine and HI; and, propionic acid and the like for pH control, and for imparting biocidal activity; and, acidifiers to adjust the composition pH to within the acid range.

37. (cancelled) A method for inhibiting or preventing microorganism formation, in the presence of organic material in an animal husbandry environment, which comprises applying propionic acid for pH control, and for combining with ambient NH_3 to form ammonium propionate, thereby producing residual biocidal activity and inhibiting or preventing microorganism formation, including mold formation.

38. (cancelled) A bovine teat composition according to Claim 1.
39. (cancelled) A bovine teat composition according to Claim 2.
40. (cancelled) The method of Claim 19, for use as a bovine teat dip.
41. (twice amended) The method of claim 28, [for use as a bovine teat dip] wherein the solution is applied as a bovine teat dip.
42. (new) The composition of claim 4, for use as a bovine teat dip.